


COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

 CITY OF DES MOINES OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER	Number:	25-184	Meeting:	May 5, 2025
	Agenda Item:	61	Roll Call:	25-0706
	Submitted by:	Cody Christensen, Development Services Director		

AGENDA HEADING:

First consideration to amend Chapter 26 of the Municipal Code to adopt the State Electrical Code, State Mechanical Code, and State Plumbing Code.

SYNOPSIS:

State law requires cities to enforce the electrical, mechanical, and plumbing codes adopted by the State. Approving this action will amend Chapter 26 of the Municipal Code to adopt these State codes by reference.

FISCAL IMPACT: NONE

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- The recommended amendments correct school storm shelter code references and assure the City's Plumbing, Electrical, and Mechanical codes remain consistent with what is required by the State. Current State codes include the 2020 edition of the National Electrical Code (NEC) and the 2024 editions of the Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC) and International Mechanical Code (IMC). The State is anticipated to have the 2023 edition of the NEC effective July 1, 2025. These amendments will allow the editions of the City's adopted Plumbing, Electrical, and Mechanical codes to keep up with future State code adoptions without delay.
- The City of Des Moines Building and Fire Code Board of Appeals has reviewed and recommends adoption of these amendments.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: December 23, 2024

Roll Call Number: [24-1763](#), [24-1764](#)

Action: [Amending](#) Chapter 26 of the Municipal Code relating to building and building regulations. ([Council Communication No. 24-531](#)) Moved by Gatto that this ordinance be considered and given first vote for passage. Second by Mandelbaum. Motion Carried 7-0.

- (A) Final consideration of ordinance above, requires six (6) votes. Moved by Gatto that the rule requiring that an ordinance must be considered and voted on for passage at two (2) Council meetings prior to the meeting at which it is to be finally passed be suspended, that the ordinance be placed upon its final passage and that the ordinance do now pass, #[16,412](#). Second by Mandelbaum. Motion Carried 7-0.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S):

Board: Building and Fire Code Board of Appeals

Date: April 10, 2025

Resolution Number: N/A

Action: These changes to the Municipal Code of the City of Des Moines were recommended by the Building and Fire Code Board of Appeals.

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

- New editions of the construction codes are published every three (3) years. Keeping current editions of the codes adopted allows City regulations to keep up with the latest construction methods and technologies. Staff time will be dedicated to Central Iowa Code Consortium processes for future code adoptions.

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